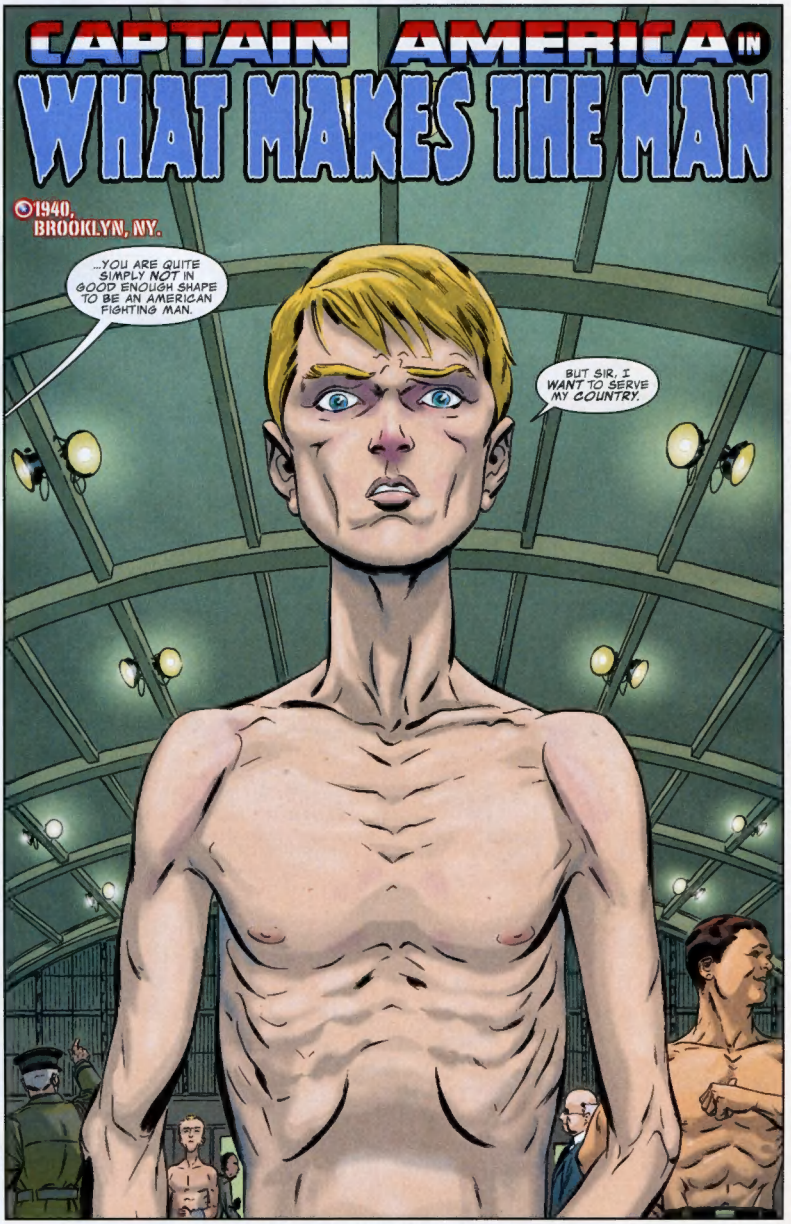
©1942,
SOMEWHERE ABOVE EUROPE.
GENTLEMEN...
...IF I COULD HAVE YOUR ATTENTION.
NOW THAT WE'RE IN THE AIR, I'M ALLOWED TO RELAY OUR ORDERS FOR TONIGHT'S SORTIE.
YOU BOYS NOT BEING LET IN ON OUR MISSION'S DETAILS BEFORE WE TOOK OFF-- THAT TELLS YOU THE LEVEL OF SECURITY THIS ONE HAS.
HITLER'S SCIENTISTS ARE HARD AT WORK ON SOMETHING CALLED THE SLEEPERS.
WE DON'T KNOW THE WHAT OR WHY OF ANY OF IT, BUT WE DO KNOW THERE'S A MOUNTAIN FACILITY IN THE ALPS WHERE WORK ON THIS IS BEING DONE.
WE'RE GOING TO DROP IN ON THEM AND HAVE OURSELVES A LOOK-SEE.
AND RUIN THE EVENING OF ANY NAZI WHO TRIES TO STOP US.
SETTLE DOWN, BUCKY.
WE STILL HAVE A GOOD HOUR UNTIL WE HIT THE DROP-ZONE.
I'D RELAX IF I WERE YOU. TRY TO SLEEP. I KNOW THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO DO.

THERE'S NOT A MAN HERE WHO ISN'T PROUD TO BE A PART OF THIS MISSION--
--TO FOLLOW HIM.
TO FIGHT.
YEAH, EVEN TO DIE.
I SEE HOW THEY LOOK AT CAP--
--SOME OF THEM WONDER WHAT IT IS THAT MAKES CAP SO SPECIAL.
HIS FIGHTING ABILITIES?
HIS PHYSICAL STRENGTH?
IS IT THE COSTUME?
IN MY MIND THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT MAKES CAPTAIN AMERICA SO GREAT...
IT'S ALL OF THEM, SURE, BUT THERE'S ONE MORE THING.
YEAH...
"...ONE THING."
I'M SORRY, MR. ROGERS...


CAPTAIN AMERICA IN
WHAT MAKES THE MAN
©1940, BROOKLYN, NY.
...YOU ARE QUITE SIMPLY NOT IN GOOD ENOUGH SHAPE TO BE AN AMERICAN FIGHTING MAN.
BUT SIR, I WANT TO SERVE MY COUNTRY.

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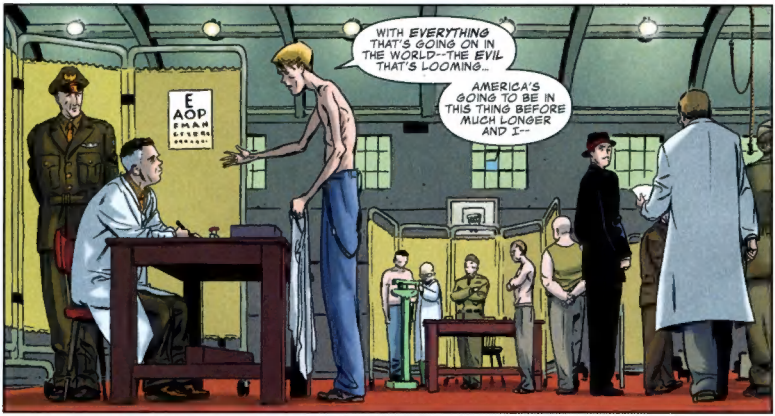
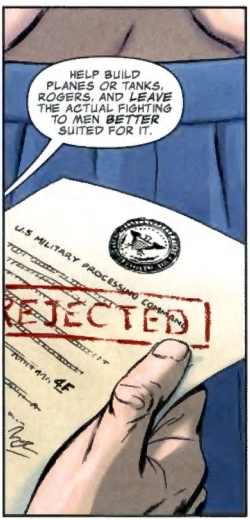
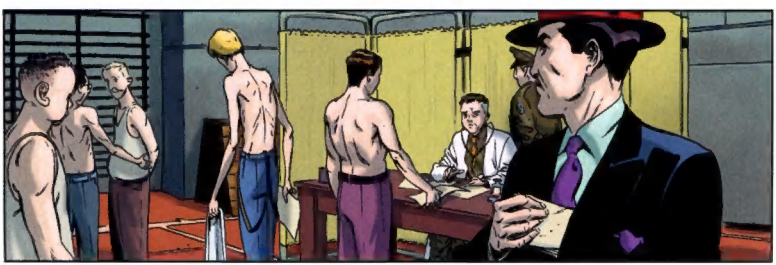

WITH EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING ON IN THE WORLD--THE EVIL THAT'S LOOMING...
AMERICA'S GOING TO BE IN THIS THING BEFORE MUCH LONGER AND I--

YES, SON, THE NAZIS AREN'T MUCH FOR SUBTLETY.
BUT THERE ARE STILL LOTS OF WAYS TO SERVE YOUR COUNTRY THAT DON'T INVOLVE MILITARY SERVICE.

FACTORIES NEED MEN TOO.
YES, BUT--


HELP BUILD PLANES OR TANKS, ROGERS. AND LEAVE THE ACTUAL FIGHTING TO MEN BETTER SUITED FOR IT.
U.S. MILITARY PROCESSING COMMAND
REJECTED



EXIT
EXIT
STEVE ROGERS

HE'S RIGHT.
I KNOW HE IS.
BUT I--
I GUESS I SHOULD DO WHAT I CAN.
SERVE IN A FACTORY.
DELUXE
TO HIRE
GARCIA GRANDE
CIGARS
BARBER
BUILD PLANES.
TANKS.
DO WHATEVER NEEDS DOING.
BUT--
--I WANT TO FIGHT.
HAIRCUT
10¢

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...COME 'ERE!!
GETOUTTATHE--
OOOF
COME ON!
CAN'T LET THEM CATCH ME--I CAN'T--
...THIS GUY'S NOTHING!

PIONEERS
RESTAURANT
SORRY, KID...
HEY, THAT'S MINE!
DON'T WORRY...
...I'M JUST BORROWING--
NHHEEOOH

HUH... HUH...
:KAFF:
LOST THEM. I THINK--
NOW!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS KEEP MOVING AND EVERYTHING WILL BE--
BLAM
PING
YOU AIN'T GOING NOWHERE.
BLAM PING
BLAM PING
BLAM PING

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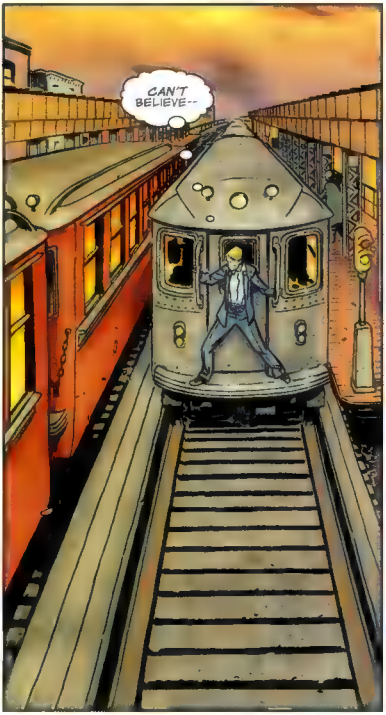
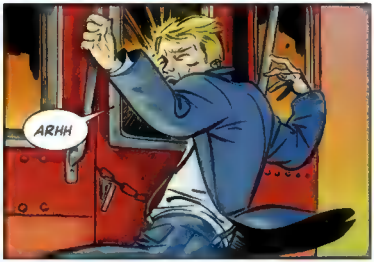
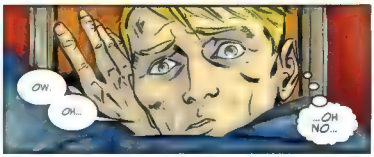
BONG
HARR! GOT IT!
NHH
AIIEEGGHHH!!
SKRE
FE


CAN'T BELIEVE--

--I'M DOING THIS.
GOTTA--


ARHH


OW.
OH...
...OH NO...

...THEY'RE UNSTOPPABLE!

'SCUSE ME.
THANK YOU.
'SCUSE ME.
THANK YOU.
END OF THE LINE.
GET OUTTA THE WAY!
MOVE!
WHA--
WHERE IS HE?
THE SKINNY GUY--WHERE'D HE...?
UH--
--DON'T WORRY.

OOHHH...
...NOT GOOD.
THEY'RE--
GOTTA GET AWAY-- GOTTA--
HUH. STUPID. DID YOU THINK YOU HAD A CHANCE?
RUNNING. LIKE A COWARD. S'WHY WHEN THE WAR COMES...
...THE FUHRER WILL WIN.
NO!
NOT A COWARD!
I AM AN AMERICAN!

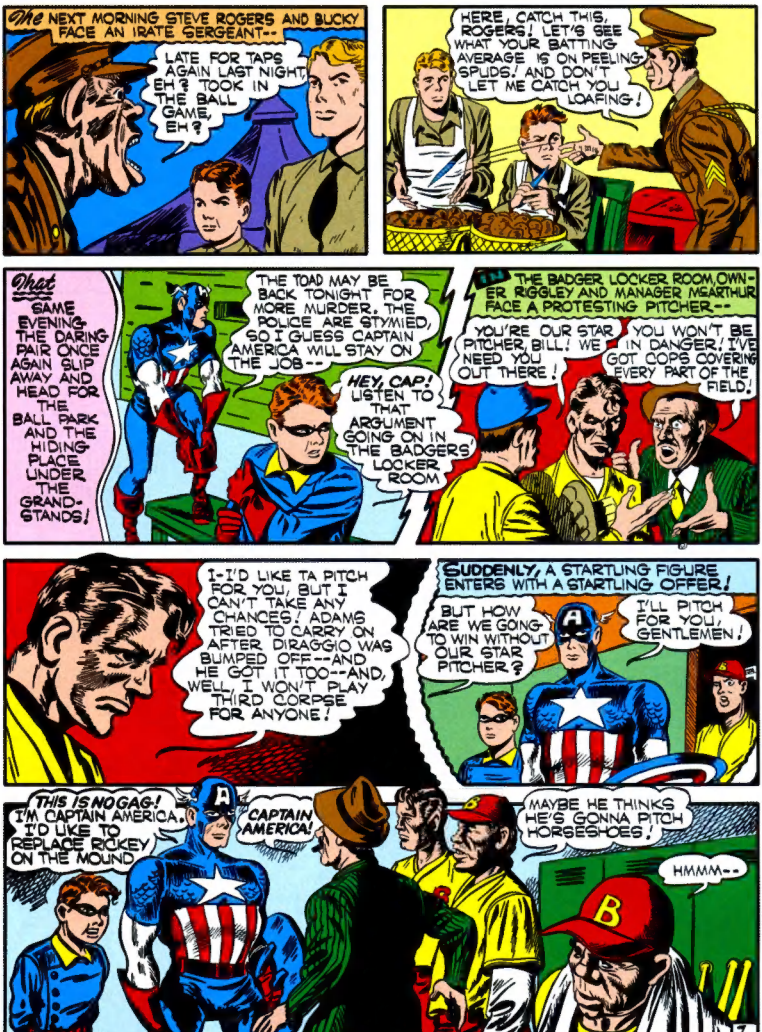
...N' I'M DONE RUNNING!
KRAK
THUM
SKREECH

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME--

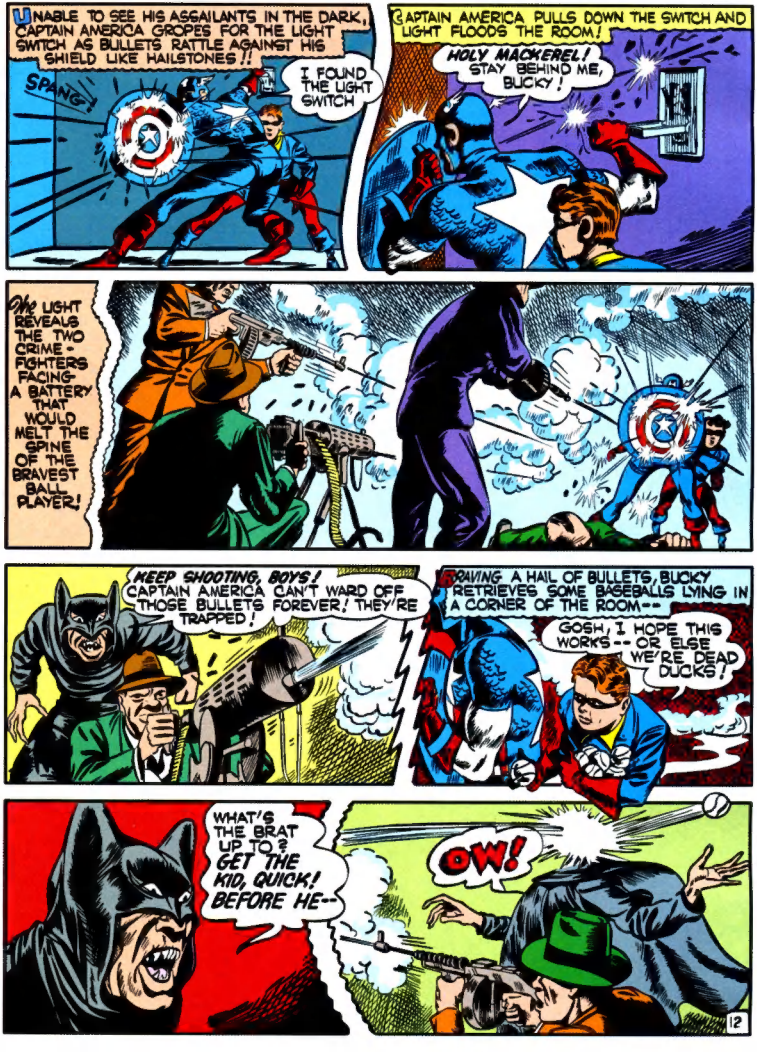
LATER, THE TIMELY BUILDING.
I'M SURE YOU'VE NOTICED HOW IRREGULAR ALL THIS IS.
BORING OFFICE ■ A BORING BUILDING IS NOT ANYTHING YOU'D IMAGINE FOR AN OPERATION OF SUCH IMPORTANCE TO AMERICA AND THE FREE WORLD.
TRUTH BE TOLD--
--THE 5TH COLUMNIST NETWORKS ARE SO SOPHISTICATED--
--I MEAN WE THOUGHT WE'D HIDDEN OUR LAST BASE IN THE CITY HERE AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED.
ERR--WHAT DID HAPPEN? IT'S ALL SO STRANGE TO ME.
OUR LAST HIDDEN FACILITY WAS BREACHED. DATA WAS STOLEN.
IT WAS SMUGGLED OUT, HIDDEN ON THIS AMULET--
ON THE JEWELRY I HAD?
A FORMULA WRITTEN IN SPIDER SILK. ALMOST INVISIBLE TO THE HUMAN EYE.
I CAN'T SAY ANY MORE EXCEPT THAT YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE THE GRATITUDE OF AMERICA.
I UNDERSTAND, SIR. THANK YOU.
NO, THANK YOU, ROGERS.
YOU KNOW, I'M BREAKING ALL SORTS OF PROTOCOL HERE, BUT I DO THINK YOU'RE OWED A LITTLE MORE ENLIGHTENMENT--
IF YOU EVER HEAR THE PHRASE "SUPER-SOLDIER" APPLIED TO AN AMERICAN SERVICEMAN--
--PAT YOURSELF ON THE BACK.

HEY, ROGERS.
I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU.
YES SIR, I KNOW. I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU WATCH ME.
I REPRESENT RECRUITMENT FOR THE VERY PROJECT YOU RECOVERED FOR YOUR COUNTRY.
IRONICALLY, WE NEED MEN LIKE YOU.
BUT I'M 4F, SIR.
WITH A1 AMERICAN SPIRIT.
I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR MY COUNTRY.
THAT'S VERY APPARENT.
LET'S TAKE A WALK.

...IS STEVE ROGERS!
END.


The NEXT MORNING STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY FACE AN IRATE SERGEANT--
LATE FOR TAPS AGAIN LAST NIGHT, EH? TOOK IN THE BALL GAME, EH?
HERE, CATCH THIS, ROGERS! LET'S SEE WHAT YOUR BATTING AVERAGE IS ON PEELING SPUDS! AND DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU LOAFING!
That SAME EVENING THE DARING PAIR ONCE AGAIN SLIP AWAY AND HEAD FOR THE BALL PARK AND THE HIDING PLACE UNDER THE GRANDSTANDS!
THE TOAD MAY BE BACK TONIGHT FOR MORE MURDER. THE POLICE ARE STYMIED, SO I GUESS CAPTAIN AMERICA WILL STAY ON THE JOB--
HEY, CAP! LISTEN TO THAT ARGUMENT GOING ON IN THE BADGERS' LOCKER ROOM
IN THE BADGER LOCKER ROOM, OWNER RIGGLEY AND MANAGER MCARTHUR FACE A PROTESTING PITCHER--
YOU'RE OUR STAR PITCHER, BILL! WE NEED YOU OUT THERE!
YOU WON'T BE IN DANGER! I'VE GOT COPS COVERING EVERY PART OF THE FIELD!
I-I'D LIKE TA PITCH FOR YOU, BUT I CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES! ADAMS TRIED TO CARRY ON AFTER DIRAGGIO WAS BUMPED OFF--AND HE GOT IT TOO--AND, WELL, I WON'T PLAY THIRD CORPSE FOR ANYONE!
SUDDENLY, A STARTLING FIGURE ENTERS WITH A STARTLING OFFER!
BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO WIN WITHOUT OUR STAR PITCHER?
I'LL PITCH FOR YOU, GENTLEMEN!
THIS IS NO GAG! I'M CAPTAIN AMERICA. I'D LIKE TO REPLACE RICKEY ON THE MOUND
CAPTAIN AMERICA!
MAYBE HE THINKS HE'S GONNA PITCH HORSESHOES!
HMMM--
7

IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE FOURTH INNING, BUCKY CLOUTS THE BALL FOR A SINGLE!
CRACK!
THAT KID CAN HIT!
C'MON, CAP! SEND ME HOME!
LET HIM HAVE IT, MIKE! THIS MASKED PALOOKA LOOKS LIKE A CINCH!
The PITCHED BALL COMES SIZZLING IN!-- CAPTAIN AMERICA STEPS IN AND SWINGS--
CRACK!
WOW!
HOLY CATS!
IT'S A HOMER!
LOOK AT THAT BALL TRAVEL!
HE HIT IT OUT OF THE CITY LIMITS!
The CAPTAIN AMERICA-BUCKY BATTERY CONTINUES CHALKING UP HOME RUNS FOR THE BROOKLYN BADGERS, LEAVING THE BLUE SOX FAR BEHIND--
I'LL BEAT OUT THIS BUNT AN' LOAD THE BASES
The CROWD ROARS AS BUCKY SINGLES AND LOADS THE BASES, BRINGING CAPTAIN AMERICA UP AT BAT! THE BLEACHERS AND GRANDSTANDS BECOME A BEDLAM OF CHEERS--
THIS GUY'S A SENSATION! HE'S NEWS!
The PITCHER IS THROWN A NEW BALL BEFORE WINDING UP FOR THE THROW--


UNABLE TO SEE HIS ASSAILANTS IN THE DARK, CAPTAIN AMERICA GROPES FOR THE LIGHT SWITCH AS BULLETS RATTLE AGAINST HIS SHIELD LIKE HAILSTONES!!
I FOUND THE LIGHT SWITCH
SPANG!
CAPTAIN AMERICA PULLS DOWN THE SWITCH AND LIGHT FLOODS THE ROOM!
HOLY MACKEREL! STAY BEHIND ME, BUCKY!
THE LIGHT REVEALS THE TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS FACING A BATTERY THAT WOULD MELT THE SPINE OF THE BRAVEST BALL PLAYER!
KEEP SHOOTING, BOYS! CAPTAIN AMERICA CAN'T WARD OFF THOSE BULLETS FOREVER! THEY'RE TRAPPED!
DODGING A HAIL OF BULLETS, BUCKY RETRIEVES SOME BASEBALLS LYING IN A CORNER OF THE ROOM--
GOSH, I HOPE THIS WORKS -- OR ELSE WE'RE DEAD DUCKS!
WHAT'S THE BRAT UP TO? GET THE KID, QUICK! BEFORE HE--
OW!
12